

**CITY OF FITCHBURG
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Starr, Chairman, Phil Chalifoux, Mike Donnelly, Harry Karis, John Koutonen, Kevin Sanders (associate member)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Mike O'Hara

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Veteran's Room, First Floor, City Hall.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notices of Intent - Labell Construction, Depot & Fairmount St., nine our two-unit dwellings (continued)
Requested to continue to December. Commission agreed to continue to 12-30 meeting.

Notice of Intent - City of Fitchburg, Shea St. Extension, sand bar removal from Shea Brook
Plan discussed to remove accumulated street sand and sediment from a 300-foot portion of Shea Brook. Commission reviewed photographs of site.

Q: Should there be sump beyond discharge point for culvert?

Q: What will final elevation be? How deep will final excavation be, deeper than the natural channel?

Kevin: Need an O & M plan.

Joel K.: Need O & M for Shea Street area. DPW & Denis has started a maintenance plan.

Mr. Richard, Autumn Drive: Shea Brook used to be 10-12 feet wide, now is 25-30 feet wide.

Consensus: Depositing excavated material off to the side of the brook 20 feet away is not acceptable – may wash back in.

Mike D: Shea Brook is tributary to a Class A water supply. Wants something in writing from Leominster that they are OK w/ proposed work. Oak Hill golf course property along Shea Street should be used as a natural filter so that clean water ends up in the tributary.

Commission wanted letters from Leominster DPW, Water Dept. & ConCom and DEM that they approved the project, and a plan showing grade of brook.

Kevin suggested approval subj. to review & approval of O&M plan.

Question whether using hay bales as check dams to reduce turbidity is appropriate. If use stone check dam – need a detail.

John: not the ideal time to do work. Should hold up work until summer when water level low.

Mike D.: is an NOI to Leominster ConCom needed?

Continued to December.

Notice of Intent - "Balsam Heights" 20-lot subdivision, off Fisher Road (continued from 10-28-08)

Chris Deloge of Whitman & Bingham dropped off revised plan and drainage report.

Re: sewer connection thru Lunenburg -- Selectmen have approved concept.

Chris: changes since last plan – mostly with drainage calculations.

Detention Basin is 50,000 sq. ft. – will hold 100-year storm. With groundwater at 2 feet, Basin will be built w/ an impervious core.

Mike D – the open space designated on plan doesn't provide usable open space, is mostly wetland.

Neighbor: responsibility for detention facilities?

Chris: homeowners' association will be responsible.

Joe Poznick: what will cost be to homeowners' assoc. – monthly fee?

Kevin: they should provide the estimated cost of maintenance in the O & M plan.

Leroy Clark -- Brian Devellis had promised everyone along line be provide a sewer stub.

He is concerned with runoff.

Chris: the sewer line was sized to accommodate that flow.

Ms. Lagasse, New West Townsend Road -- how far from detention basin to her house?

Chris: 150 feet

Agreed to continue to Dec. 30th

Notice of Intent - Rivers, 70 Frederick St., two single-family dwellings (continued from 10-28-08)

Tim Beauchemin, P.E. and Scott Rivers present.

Tim had talked to Tim Smith who raised concern about slope adjacent to Baker Brook at rear of property.

Tim B. submitted revised plan showing deed restricted area at rear of lot -- no, lawn, no future building, no disturbance allowed. This restriction will be written into deeds for lots when they are split.

Also, an access easement and slope easement will be provided to the City to enable access to rear slope (on city land opposite Coolidge Park).

Commission wants him to demarcate this "No Disturb" area w/ 4" x 4" pressure treated post with marker every 25 feet.

Motion made & seconded to approve subject to these conditions. Vote unanimous.

Notice of Intent - Morin, 909 Ashburnham St., septic repair

Eric of Wind River presented plan for replacement septic system to rear of house. Closest point is about 50-feet from wetland delineation near top of bank. Phillips Brook is adjacent to parcel. System currently failing, no other location feasible. Commission reviewed photos of site.

Commission unanimously approved, subject to work schedule as submitted in Wind River's NOI.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Tom Christopher present to discuss Fanelli property. He submitted letter and photo showing water dams that have been installed on Fanelli property.

Commission voted unanimously to accept the work done as resolving the situation. They feel that this will close this item.

Extension Permit signed for Billings Road, GAC Homes #155- 487 (Lot 8A) and #155- 490 (Lot 3A)

Two-year extensions granted unanimously.

Arn-Farm Road, Lots 11-14

Mike D: Commission had previously given extension of 90-120 days top remove fill. Nothing has been done. . Wanted a letter to go to the Owner stating the fill be must be removed within 30 days, or a fine would be imposed on the 31st day.

Motion made & seconded to adjourn. Vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 p.m.